

Saudi leader ends Syria visit

DAMASCUS (AP) — Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia left Damascus Saturday after two days of talks with President Hafez Al Assad on Arab unity, the Syrian News Agency (SANA) reported. Vice-President Abdal Halim Khaddam escorted Prince Abdullah to the airport. SANA reported. Abdullah has been trying for some time to end differences between Syria and Iraq in a drive to unite the Arab World. Assad visited Riyadh Dec. 14 for two days of talks on what Arab diplomats called "unifying efforts to achieve pan-Arab goals." SANA did not give any details of Assad's closed-door talks with Abdullah Friday, which it said centred on regional developments and "the achievement of Arab solidarity." But diplomatic sources reported Friday night that the situation in Lebanon was discussed. Diplomatic sources said Friday that Assad and Abdullah were expected to discuss moves to convene an Arab summit to reinforce the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) peace initiative and to press for an international Middle East peace conference.

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His Majesty King Hussein Saturday confers with a group of U.S. Republican congressmen currently on a visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

King reviews Mideast with U.S. lawmakers

PLO moves warrant positive Israeli response — Al Hussein

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said Saturday the positive Palestinian stand towards peace and the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) response to the requirements of peace should draw a similar response from Israel.

"The Palestinian people have a legitimate right to self-determination and freedom on their own land like all other peoples of the world, and they should be able to set up an independent state on Palestinian national soil," King Hussein said at a meeting with a visiting group of U.S. congressmen.

King Hussein reviewed with

the visitors developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem as well as the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in Lebanon.

He said that the world community should intensify its efforts to transform the present ceasefire between Iraq and Iran into a permanent peace based on non-interference in internal affairs of each other and marked by regional cooperation.

The Lebanese crisis can end when Lebanon regains its national unity, stability and territorial integrity, the King said at the meeting which was attended by Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and American Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddar.

King Hussein voiced hope that the incoming American administration of George Bush would take special interest in the Middle East in view of the region's significance to the world and the "inherent dangers that affect the whole world if the region's conflicts are allowed to continue."

He also voiced hope that the current favourable international climate would help lay the foundations of a permanent and durable global peace.

The U.S. congressmen were later received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who reviewed with them developments in the Middle East region and U.S.-Jordanian relations.

The American ambassador was present at the meeting.

The three visiting congressmen, all of them Republican, are Edward Madigan of Illinois, Robert Smith of Oregon and Wally Herger of California.

King, North Yemeni leader exchange views

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a telephone call from North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The two leaders exchanged views on a number of pan-Arab issues and collective Arab action.

14 Palestinians shot and wounded in W. Bank, Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded 14 Palestinians Saturday, including a 16-year-old girl who was shot in the head and critically wounded in a clash in the occupied West Bank, Arab reports and hospital officials said.

Also over the weekend, unidentified assailants stabbed an Arab village leader to death, in what appeared to be another in a series of attacks on suspected collaborators, hospital officials said.

Israel Radio said an angry mob attacked the home of 57-year-old Mahmoud Abdallah Hamoudah, stabbing him to death and lightly injuring his two sons, both in their 20s.

Hamoudah was the mukhtar of Qubeiba, 12 kilometres northwest of Jerusalem. He died late Friday night in a Ramallah hospital.

Palestinian women held an illegal march to Nablus and raised banned Palestinian flags, an Arab reporter said. He said soldiers dispersed them without opening fire.

Two protesters were shot and wounded in a clash in Bani Naim, a village in the southern West Bank region, Israel Radio said.

In the Gaza Strip, troops shot and wounded at least eight protesters who hurled rocks on them in the town of Rafah and in two refugee camps. Among the wounded was a seven-year-old boy, Arab reports and hospital officials said.

Palestinians reported protests in Ramallah where youths tried to tear down Israeli signs pointing to Jewish settlements.

In Jerusalem, two petrol

(Continued on page 4)

Global push begins in Paris against chemical arms spread

PARIS (Agencies) — Most of the world's nations began a five-day conference Saturday aimed at stopping the spread of chemical weapons.

Opening speakers urged the need to enforce a ban on the use of poison gas and speed up work on a treaty to outlaw its production but sought to reassure countries tempted to acquire the "poor man's nuclear bomb" that they were not in the dock.

"This conference is not a court, but you must condemn out of hand a weapon which must be destroyed," French President Francois Mitterrand, the host, told delegates from more than 140 countries.

About 80 states, including both superpowers, are represented by their foreign ministers at the conference.

Mitterrand said the conference had two aims: to shore up the 1925 Geneva protocol, which banned the use of chemical weapons in war, and to accelerate work in Geneva on a new convention which would outlaw the production and possession of toxic gases.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed to delegates "to step up their efforts

to prohibit, once and for all, the use of chemical weapons, and to force the pace of the Geneva negotiations."

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz proposed the imposition of unspecified penalties by the United Nations to those violating the 1925 Geneva protocol banning the use of "one of humanity's most dreaded and dreadful forms of warfare."

Shultz warned that the threat of "terrorists" using chemical weapons is "a real one" and said some governments linked to "terrorism" have the ability to produce deadly chemical agents.

"There are no insurmountable technical obstacles that would prevent terrorist groups from using chemical weapons," Shultz told the conference delegates.

Shultz also argued for bolstering the U.N. secretary general's authority to investigate allegations of the use of chemical arms in war, and said nations must find ways to block the transfer of technology.

There was no direct reference in Shultz's speech at the headquarters of the U.N. Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, site of the conference, to the U.S. campaign against Libya.

Protection for Palestinians top PLO priority

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The top priority for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its ongoing contacts with the United States and European states is arriving at ways and means to "protect the Palestinian people in the occupied territories from Israeli state terrorism," according to a senior PLO official.

Bassam Abu Sharif, a senior advisor to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, said Saturday the PLO was maintaining close contacts with all Arab and friendly states, in particular the five permanent members of the

Security Council to devise "the practical steps necessary to protect the Palestinian people from Israel's unprecedented savagery use of terroristic means, including use of live ammunition and toxic gas, destruction of homes, expulsions and massive detentions without trial."

Abu Sharif, speaking to the Jordan Times in an interview, also renewed the PLO's rejection of any solution failing short of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Such solutions, Abu Sharif said, will never be able to restore peace in the Middle East.

Abu Sharif was referring to an idea recently floated by

senior aides to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. No precise details of the proposals are available, but it is believed that it is based on a "tripartite confederation" including Jordan, the occupied territories and Israel.

"Any solution that doesn't lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state will be a solution that will be short of meeting the requirements necessary for stability and comprehensive peace in the Middle East," said Abu Sharif.

According to another senior PLO official, the proposal is the "Israeli alternative to the Palestinian peace offensive which has been gaining

momentum."

The source said "no matter how it presents it, the ultimate Israeli aim is only to impose an 'autonomy' solution in the occupied territories."

Over 90 countries have extended full recognition to the newly proclaimed Palestinian state. International support for the PLO strategy based on a Jewish state and a Palestinian state has been increasing since the Palestine National Council (PNC) declared the state at a meeting in Algiers in November. In addition, the PLO has also met with key U.S. preconditions for formal contacts and thus cleared the way for the ongoing dialogue with the U.S.

which began in Tunis Dec. 16. Jordan has been one of the influential forces behind the course of events that led to the opening of the U.S.-PLO dialogue.

"Through supporting and increasing the momentum and the victories that make the PLO and the Palestinian people a reality, Jordan and the PLO will continue to cooperate and coordinate efforts to confront Israel's arrogance and rejectionist policies," said Abu Sharif.

The PLO remains optimistic that its dialogue with the U.S.

(Continued on page 4)

Vorontsov reaffirms Soviet resolve

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Moscow will find a way to support Kabul's communist government following the withdrawal of its forces by Feb. 15 if no broad-based government is established by then, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov said Saturday.

Formation of a broad-based government representing all political forces of Afghanistan, including the ruling Marxist government, is the only way to guarantee peace after the remaining 50,000 Soviet soldiers leave, Vorontsov said at a news conference.

The Soviet envoy dismissed widespread claims by rebels, as well as Pakistani and Western analysts, that Kabul's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) will be toppled once Soviet troops are out of Afghanistan. Libya denies this.

"It will survive in its own right and you will know it after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces," said Vorontsov. "We will be supporting them (the Kabul government) if there is no broad-based government. We will support the regime in Kabul as the legal government of the Republic of Afghanistan. We will find the way."

He refused to elaborate further.

Afghan rebels, who have been fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul for the past 10 years, have promised to establish a council that would in turn choose a transitional government.

But the loose alliance of seven Afghan rebel groups headquartered in Pakistan have said none of Afghanistan's communists will be allowed to participate.

would stop attacking the Soviets when the troops were leaving Afghanistan.

Sibhatullah Mojaddidi headed the delegation of Pakistan and Iranian based Afghan rebels at Friday's meetings with Vorontsov. Iran hosts about two million Afghan refugees.

On Friday the guerrilla delegation made up of Pakistan-based and Iran-based representatives was insisting that President Najibullah's party had no place in a future administration.

"We said they could include the Muslim elements, but not the communists or non-Muslim elements... no-one will accept it in Afghanistan," said Mojaddidi, whose alliance has been fighting to set up an Islamic state over the past nine years.

Yuli Vorontsov

Qadhafi invites Bush to direct talks

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Saturday invited the incoming U.S. administration of George Bush to direct talks on the disputes which have dogged them for years.

He also said Libya supported worldwide inspection of arms factories.

In a surprise appearance in the lobby of Tripoli's Kabir Hotel, Qadhafi said: "The Bush administration must sit face to face with Libya so that we can agree on the issues in dispute."

"It must put weapons aside so that we can establish peace in the Mediterranean and in the world. I believe the Bush administration is able to do that."

U.S. navy planes shot down two Libyan MiG-23s off the Libyan coast Wednesday and Washington has hinted it might attack a factory where it says Libya is planning to produce chemical weapons.

Qadhafi, dressed in a brown woolen cloak, a tartan shirt and a black beret, turned up at the hotel driving his own white Peugeot for what he said was a cup of coffee.

About 150 foreign journalists wrestled with Qadhafi bodyguards as he wandered silently through the corridors for several minutes.

"He doesn't know you are here. He just wants a cup of coffee," one of his aides shouted.

Qadhafi later agreed to answer a few questions and made a statement in Arabic.

Asked whether Libya would allow international inspections of the factory at Rabta, 60 kilometres southwest of Tripoli, Qadhafi said: "Yes, when it opens."

Libyan officials say the plant will start producing medicines in two to three months.

In his statement Qadhafi said Libya was willing to take part in all disarmament negotiations and favoured inspection of all weapons factories provided all countries including the United States and Israel accepted the same conditions.

The unexpected sight of a smiling Qadhafi in the hotel set off

chaos. Journalists and camera crews knocked over potted plants, scrambled atop chairs and climbed over an ornamental fountain inside the lobby.

Qadhafi's appearance came a day after the Libyan government charged at a news conference and in official media that its planes were overwhelmed Wednesday by 14 "hostile American aircraft."

A government spokesman Friday said that the U.S. report that two American jets had acted in self-defence was "a fabrication."

The Libyan account appeared intended to counter the U.S. government's vigorous presentation of its own case in recent days.

Washington has provided television stations with videotape, taken by a U.S. aircraft, of Wednesday's attack, and shown photographs to the U.N. Security Council of what it said was a heavily armed Libyan plane involved in the encounter.

In other developments:

— At least two MiG-23 jet fighters sat at Tripoli's airport Friday, poised to enter the takeoff runway. A day earlier, no military planes were seen on any runway. Increased security was noted at the headquarters of Qadhafi.

— A Western diplomat in Tripoli said he believed the United States and Libya had had "contacts" through a third country to defuse the tension.

Rumours circulated that Qadhafi had ousted his military chief, but the reports could not be confirmed.

Rajab Abou Dabbous, secretary of the people's committee of Libyan information, or information ministry, told a news conference Friday evening that the U.S. jets launched a premeditated attack Wednesday on the Libyan planes.

He disputed Washington's account that two planes attached to the U.S. Sixth Fleet were set

upon by the Libyan MiG-23s. "The truth is that 14, count them, attacked two Libyan planes on a normal reconnaissance flight," said Dabbous.

"The (U.S.) statements of the last couple of weeks show a pattern of premeditation," he added. "It is not by chance the (U.S.) fleet was off our coast."

At the U.N. Security Council, Libya's envoy branded the U.S. photographs "fake, fake, fake."

Libya had requested the Security Council meeting in New York to seek steps to prevent further clashes with U.S. forces.

American U.N. representative Vernon Walters, however, challenged Libyan claims that its warplanes had been unarmed.

"At the outset it was claimed that the Libyan planes were unarmed. We have photographs that prove the planes were armed," he told the delegates as he presented large, mounted pictures.

"The missile pods show quite clearly there were two different types of missiles hanging from the aircraft's wings and hanging from the under part of the fuselage," Walters said.

"These deliberate misstatements of fact tell the story so far as credibility is concerned," he added.

In London, the editor of Britain's respected Jane's Avionics Yearbook said a U.S. videotape of the clash released Thursday failed to prove the MiG-23s were about to attack.

"It could have been just an innocent wish to investigate what was out there," David Brinkman said of the Libyan fighters' repeated course changes towards the U.S. jets.

Rumours circulated that Qadhafi had ousted his military chief, but the reports could not be confirmed.

Later, Libyan Ambassador Ali Muntasir told reporters after emerging from the Security Council meeting, "We are in the country of Hollywood. But I still repeat, these photos and that radio tape is fake, fake, fake."

Third World U.N. members blasted the United States Friday and Washington's allies made no effort to defend the action.

campain until he was forced to resign because he could not account for millions of dollars seized in raids or amassed from fines.

The new crackdown is spearheaded by special task forces of revolutionary committees, known as Komitehs, Revolutionary Guards and provincial security agencies.

In recent weeks, they have rounded up more than 1,000 people, seized several tons of opium, and harshly killed or wounded scores of heavily armed smugglers in gunbattles, Iran's official media have reported.

Most of the action was along the borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Officials said the smugglers bring in large quantities of drugs in caravans through the rugged regions. Some is used to supply Iranian addicts, but much is smuggled out again through Turkey, Iran's northeastern neighbour, to Western Europe.

Mahmoud Mir-Lohi, deputy commander of the revolutionary committees, said last month authorities have declared a long stretch of the border with Afghanistan a closed zone.

Alarming increase

A ban on alcohol, worsening unemployment and the breakdown of political control in the first years of the revolution were also seen as major factors in an alarming increase in drug smuggling and opium growing in Iran.

Khomeini's fundamentalist regime executed hundreds of alleged drug smugglers in the early days of the revolution that toppled the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

Most were sentenced, often on flimsy evidence, by Iran's notorious judge Sadeq Khalakhi. He was also head of an anti-narcotics

campaign until he was forced to resign because he could not account for millions of dollars seized in raids or amassed from fines.

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Mahmoud Mir-Lohi, deputy commander of the revolutionary committees, said last month authorities have declared a long stretch of the border with Afghanistan a closed zone.

No one should go near this area

"No one should go near this area," he said. "Drug caravans use this area and forces stationed there have been ordered to deal firmly with any unauthorised person."

Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani declared last month that Iran's drug problem was "a blight that has ruined some of our youth."

The radio said several of the men executed were kidnappers in major narcotics rings operating in the southwest, one of the main targets of the crackdown launched following the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the war with Iraq.

A statement by the office of the prosecutor in charge of the anti-narcotics campaign branded the executed men as "the best examples of the corrupt on earth."

The executions were carried

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ... Korean

15:45 ... Children programmes

18:00 ... News summary in Arabic

18:05 ... Local programme

18:25 ... Local series

17:05 ... Local programmes

19:40 ... Programme review

19:50 ... Plastic Art

20:20 ... News in Arabic

21:30 ... Arabic series

21:40 ... Programme review

22:00 ... Local programme

22:20 ... Variety programme

23:00 ... News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ... La Baby Sitter

18:30 ... L'Ecole des Fans

18:45 ... News in French

19:15 ... A documentary

19:30 ... News in Hebrew

19:45 ... Varieties programme

20:00 ... News in Arabic

Only When I Laugh

21:10 Documentary: "The Silk Road"

22:20 ... News in English

The Equalisers

Fay

(Source) Dada

11:45 ... Durb

14:28 ... Ac

Magreb

18:13 ... Isba

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ... Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

Orthodox Church Tel. 622360.

Orthodox Church Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 623383.

CHURCHES

628543, Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772031.

St. Eastern Church Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church Tel. 685326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.

Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A slight rise on temperature is expected; clouds will increase gradually and scattered rain is expected. Wind will be southerly becoming south-westerly. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with a chance for scattered rain. Winds will be northerly moderate

changing to southerly and seas becoming wavy.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 3° / 11

Aqaba 5° / 17

Deserts 0° / 10

Jordan Valley 6° / 16

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Aqaba 17. Humidity readings: Amman 34 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Ali As'ad 897910

Dr. Abdul Wahab Al Awad 846770

Dr. Jamal Abu Bakr 74042n

Dr. Issam Abu Riqq 611764

Firdaus pharmacy 661912

Ferdous pharmacy 778346

Al Asmaa pharmacy 637055

Nairoukh pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Ya'oub pharmacy 649495

Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID: DR. AL SHAIKH 985338

Al Sharaf pharmacy 985417

TAZQA: Dr. Ghassan Al Faqih 985417

Khalilch pharmacy 985417

CHEMICALS: Dr. Ali Shuaib 623101

Abdul Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 741111

Water Authority 690100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 648111, 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-53200

Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 06-53200

HOTELS: Hotel Complaints 605800

EMERGENCIES: Civil Defence Directorate 601111

Civil Defence Immediate Rescue

National News

Hindawi leaves for Geneva talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Touqan Hindawi left for Geneva Saturday to head Jordan's delegation to the 41st international education conference which is sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The eight-day conference will discuss educational policies and strategies after the secondary stage, new trends in secondary education and links between general education and vocational training.

On the agenda also are the following topics: Higher education, development of supervision and guidance of teachers, adult education and effects of various types of education on the community.

A draft resolution, already presented to the conference, reaffirmed the need for diversifying training, the inclusion of courses that would contribute to the transfer and development of science and technology, and for paving the way to open new institutions providing new specialisations in education.

Education in general, the draft resolution said, should benefit cultural, social, economic and technological development of societies in general and help should be offered on equal footing for all classes.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday delegated the Royal Court Secretary General to convey his condolences to the Khashman family on the death of late Rajab Al Khashman. His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad also delegated his private secretary to convey his condolences to the Khashman family. (Petra)

RIFAI CONDOLES: Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has delegated Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Zuhair Ajlouni to participate in the funeral of late Rajab Al Khashman and to convey condolences to his family. (Petra)

ROYAL WAR ACADEMY: Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb Saturday opened a course at the Royal War Academy in Amman. Abu Taleb wished those enrolled in the course success and hoped that Jordan would continue to attain security and stability under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein. (Petra)

TURKISH AIDE VISITS MA'AN: Deputy Director of the Religious Affairs Department in Turkey, Mr. Saifuddin Al Yazziji, Friday visited the southern town of Ma'an where he inspected Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs centres and mosques. He also met with the town's mayor and local officials to discuss arrangements for the accommodation of Turkish pilgrims on their way to Saudi Arabia for the annual pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina. (Petra)

MAJALI IN EGYPT: Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Bader Saturday received Public Security Department Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali. During the meeting they discussed means to boost bilateral relations in the field of security. Majali arrived in Cairo earlier to attend a conference held by the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan and the Ahram Institution. (Petra)

TOUQAN RECEIVES ITALIAN ENVOY: Social Development Minister Dr. Fawwaz Touqan Saturday reviewed with Italian Ambassador in Amman Francesco de Curien, the existing cooperation between Jordan and Italy, particularly in the fields of social development. (Petra)

RAMTHA INDUSTRIAL ZONE: Ramtha municipality has embarked on the second phase of an industrial and crafts zone in Ramtha town which will entail building 36 stores at the cost of JD 170,000. The second stage will accommodate an additional number of artisans who will own workshops inside Ramtha, according to the mayor. The first stage of the industrial zone cost JD 400,000 and was erected on a 110 dunums of land. (Petra)

BALOAZ LEAVES FOR JAKARTA, MANILA: Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Director General Mahmoud Balqaz and a Jordanian delegation have left for Indonesia and the Philippines. According to Al Dostour, the delegation will hold talks with air transport officials in both countries to conclude bilateral agreements to enable the Royal Jordanian to operate direct flights linking Amman with both of Jakarta and Manila. (Petra)

ARBOR DAY IN TAFILEH: Tafileh Governor Aref Rashed Saturday chaired a meeting during which the conferees agreed to hold Arbor Day celebrations in the governorate on Jan. 16. During the meeting, the governor stressed the importance of trees so as to increase the planted areas and stem desertification. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of works by Contemporary Arab Artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ The Iraqi Cultural Week which includes an exhibition by the Iraqi artist Salam Al Midamgheli and an exhibition of children's paintings and children's literary and cultural books, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "New Museum Buildings in the Federal Republic of Germany" at the Yarmouk University — 11:00 a.m.

BAZAAR

- ★ A charity bazaar that includes wooden handicrafts, embroideries, artificial flowers, children's toys and cultural books at Alia's Centre, Hittin Refugee Camp.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture by Dr. George Al Sayegh entitled "The contemporary art and the philosophy of Arabic art" at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ A lecture by Dr. Fahd Al Fanek on the dimensions of the national budget at the Royal Scientific Society — 3:00 p.m.

FILMS

- ★ A feature film entitled "Inherit the Wind" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ A video film entitled "Deutschlandspeicher" (The German Scene), in Arabic, at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.



Rifai receives U.S. congressmen

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday receives three U.S. congressmen and their accompanying de-

legation who are currently visiting Jordan at the Prime Ministry (see story on page 1) (Petra photo)

Tawjihi examinations end today

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The mid-year Tawjihi examination session, taken by more than 58,000 students in Jordan, comes to a close Sunday, but students will not know to their results before one month from now.

The Ministry of Education which organised the examination made available a total of 768 halls in different governorates and appointed teachers for supervis-

ing the progress of the examination and for marking the papers afterwards.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Touqan Hindawi Saturday made an inspection tour of examination halls in the Amman Governorate and heard a briefing on the examination process.

He also met with students to hear their remarks about the examinations.

The minister was accompanied on the tour by the director of

Education Department in Amman region and other officials.

Hindawi had visited Tafileh last week and inspected examination halls there in the wake of complaints aired in the local press about the nature of examination questions and the general atmosphere at the examination halls.

While touring the examination halls in Amman the minister said that all remarks about the questions will be taken into account during the marking of examination papers.

Jordan, Oman discuss means to boost trade

MUSCAT (Petra, J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Omani Economic Committee opened a meeting here to discuss prospects for bolstering Jordanian-Omani relations and increase the volume of trade between them.

The meeting is cochaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa and his Omani counterpart Salem Ghazali whose teams will be involved in reviewing the present status of trade and will examine the prospect of increasing Jordan's imports of Omani fish and Omani imports of Jordanian national products,

especially medicine and vegetables. They will also discuss means to promote the role of the private sectors in both countries to contribute to the development of trade.

Both sides also hope to establish a holding company which will regulate and supervise the implementation of joint enterprises and will seek to sign agreements on bilateral cooperation in joint ventures, and land transport.

Jordan currently exports pharmaceutical products, carpets, furniture, domestic appliances and glass products to Oman.

Jordan takes part in talks on Arab boycott of Israel

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in a meeting by the Arab League Office for the Boycott of Israel which opened in Damascus Saturday.

The office's Amman branch director Mohammad Al Ru'oud is attending the meeting along with representatives of the Arab countries who will discuss the status of more than 100 foreign firms in the light of their response to a call by the office to stop their dealings with Israel.

The week-long meeting will

also discuss issues that emerged after one year of Palestinian uprising during which the Arab population boycotted Israel's goods as part of their resistance of occupation.

The office commissioner general Zuhair Aqel delivered a speech in which he paid tribute to the Palestinian population and said that Israeli economy is now in deep trouble, because of the current uprising which caused a decline in tourism.

QAF starts course for staff employed in special education

AMMAN (Petra) — The Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (WAF) Saturday opened a week-long training course for newly appointed employees working in the field of rehabilitating mentally retarded children.

The 35 participants in the course, who represent 16 different rehabilitation centres in the country, will be given theoretical training and will do practical work on special education for the mentally retarded, sports activi-

ties for the handicapped, techniques and methods in teaching handicapped children and training the handicapped in carrying out their handicraft work, and also in helping the handicapped to develop speech abilities and methods of relating stories to the handicapped children.

Lecturers and specialists in the training course came from the University of Jordan and from rehabilitation centres.

Jordan, Iraq to discuss religious cooperation

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Committee on Religious Affairs is due to convene in Baghdad in the coming month to lay down details for joint action in Awqaf and Islamic affairs, according to a statement here Saturday.

The announcement, made by Iraqi Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs Abdullah Fadel in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the two sides will discuss means of promoting their bilateral cooperation through a protocol that will organise the exchange of expertise and coordination in religious activities and conferences.

The Iraqi minister, who will co-chair the meeting with his Jordanian counterpart Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, said that next month's meeting will discuss matters related to the annual Islamic Cultural Week which is organised in Baghdad and Amman.

The cultural week, he said, will include seminars, Islamic book

exhibitions, and other activities organised jointly by the ministries of Awqaf in the two countries.

Fadel said Jordan will also be among the Arab and Islamic countries taking part in a meeting of the Higher Council on Islamic Affairs which will convene in Baghdad on Feb. 10, with the participation of 200 scholars from around the world.

In our issue of the Jordan Times, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1989, we erroneously reported that "a Royal Decree has been issued approving the nomination of Izzat Rashed Dajani as Jordan's honorary consul to the Seychelles." The correct report should have been "a Royal Decree has been issued approving the nomination of Dajani as the Seychelles' honorary consul to Jordan." The Jordan Times regrets this error.

Jerusalem leader finds urgent need for united Arab stand

By Ramia Atalla
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prospects for a just settlement of the Palestinian problem will remain elusive until the Arab World undertakes a serious and unified stand that would compel the United States to force Israel into dropping its defiance and intransigence, according to Jerusalem's former Governor Anwar Al Khatib.

Given Israel's disregard for world public opinion, and the fact that the intifada is forceful enough to disturb Israel's presence in the occupied territories but not compel it to withdraw, the only solution, according to Khatib, is for the Arabs to form a "united front" that would threaten U.S. interests in the area and force the superpower to apply effective pressure on Israel.

Khatib believes that the PLO's latest peace initiative will not bring about Israeli withdrawal from territories it occupied in 1967. To support his argument, Khatib states that Israel has continued to illegally build more settlements on the West Bank even after the PLO peace initiative was launched, indicating that Israeli leaders are neither interested in, nor serious about real peace.

Even the peace movement in Israel, he said, has failed to come up with a clear definition of "peace," fearing as it does, that what is done, the whole movement will fall apart.

"Israel is not willing to pay the price of peace," Khatib told the Jordan Times.

"Being as it is a close ally of the U.S., Israel is not threatened by any power in the region."

Khatib believes there is an "immense, unbridgeable gap" between the maximum that Israel is willing to offer towards peace and the minimum acceptable to the Palestinians.

The historic step taken by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers on Nov. 15 constitutes, in Khatib's view, an attempt to save whatever can be saved. But he is not optimistic that the step will achieve a solu-

tion acceptable to the Palestinians.

(PLO Chairman Yasser) "Arabat is not asking for absolute justice (for the Palestinians)... he is asking for justice that is attainable, and even that is impossible," he said.

Khatib believes the Soviet Union's rapprochement with the U.S. came as a result of the former's economic difficulties and its need for Western technology. That rapprochement, he

said, has helped solve many of the regional conflicts, but will not be of any use to the situation in the Middle East.

"The position of the Soviet Union on the Middle East issue is now closer than ever to the U.S. position," he said, adding that Arab states were insignificant to the Soviet Union. "We are neither their friends nor their enemies... And even if we were their enemies, our enmity does not bother them."

Palestinians in the occupied territories want peace because they are tired of living under occupation, "but they do not want to surrender" and get nothing in return, Khatib says. "Unity is the only solution to the problem."

"Palestinians will be saved only by unity — by a serious and united Arab front that threatens U.S. interests in the area," Khatib said.

Jordan's decision to sever all administrative and legal links with the West Bank, according to the former governor, has proved that it is with the Palestinians that the Israelis will have to deal. "The so-called Jordanian option is finished," he said.

The intifada, according to Khatib, is a "revolution of a whole people."

"Everyone is rebelling... women, children, merchants, lawyers... They are rebelling as a result of their frustration" from the lack of movement towards a settlement of their problem.

He said the uprising had done away with the Palestinians' fear of the Israeli occupation forces. "The intifada will continue," he said. "The Palestinian people are now at a stage of forming themselves as a people, a process which comes as a result of their suffering, persecution and their status as refugees."

Anani: RSS to produce computers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is making preparations for the production of computers in cooperation with Singapore by March 1989 and part of the computer sets will be sold to local schools. RSS President Jawad Al Anani announced Saturday.

The computer business is part of the RSS's endeavours to promote its cooperation with the other nations in the transfer of technology and in promoting the national industry, Anani said in an interview published in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

He said another project undertaken by the RSS in cooperation with an American firm is to manufacture components and parts of helicopters which will be used for training purposes.

Parts of the helicopters, to be made in Jordan, will be owned and marketed by the American firm, Anani explained.

In order to give impetus to this drive, Anani noted, the RSS plans to open a college specialised in applied engineering which will award BA degrees in applied engineering to the graduates.

He said that the college, which should be able to absorb 800 students a year, will be opened in the coming academic year and its courses will be

oriented towards providing much needed technicians and engineers to carry out maintenance work in Jordanian businesses and factories.

The RSS also plans to establish a company in March under the name of the Jordanian technology group which will undertake the mission of adopting new ideas by young Jordanian scientists.

The new firm, for which offices will be opened and services supplied, will be placed at the disposal of investors and businessmen, Anani explained.

He said that the RSS supports new ideas and will soon establish an advanced centre for engineers to help them carry out design and produce components for machines and spare parts and help promote existing industries.

Referring to RSS's activities and programmes, Anani noted that they currently cover the development of oil shale, the utilisation of solar and wind power and building materials and helping the country find new water resources to meet nation's needs in the coming 20 years.

Recent estimates put Jordan's reserves of oil shale at 13 billion tonnes; and the RSS will try to contribute to the national effort to extract oil from shale; and the use of shale by-products in other

industries, Anani said.

West Germany is currently helping the RSS to utilise solar and wind power, and the joint efforts have succeeded in developing solar heaters for domestic use. Solar power is being used at the Arab Potash Company plants near the southern tip of the Dead Sea, the dairy products in Ruseifa and emergency telephones along the main highways.

Anani said the RSS is currently involved in setting up a \$1.5 million solar energy project for Iraq near the common border with Jordan; and both countries are maintaining joint cooperation in the utilisation of solar energy with technical assistance from West Germany.

He said that solar heaters manufactured in Jordan are being exported to Malaysia, Nigeria and Indonesia.

The RSS building research centre has developed a certain type of building material named Formula-5 involving the use of prefabricated and ordinary bricks for building. This low cost building material can resist earthquakes and is easy to use for setting up buildings, Anani pointed out.

He said a housing unit using this technique was carried out at Ruseifa and two Arab countries will use this technique in future.

RJ yacht comes first in international race

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Jordanian sponsored yacht, Maiden Great Britain, came first in the "D" category and overall second place in an international yachting race that kicked off from Cadiz in Spain last month.

A spokesman for Royal Jordanian in Amman said that the first stage of the "Old Route Race" ended at the port of Antigua in the Caribbean and the competing boats will pursue the race, after a few days rest, towards the port of Fort Lauderdale in the U.S. state of Florida.

Jan. 19 is the end of the race when the participants will gather in Florida for a press conference and a grand ceremony.

The RJ yacht, which participated in the race to mark its 25th anniversary last month, has a sail

with the logo, "Visit Jordan, the Home of Petra," chairman and first executive officer Ali Ghand

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Hypocrisy at its peak

IN A nutshell, Washington's bellicose concern over a Libyan plant suspected of manufacturing chemical weapons is flawed on legal grounds: The 1925 Geneva Convention on chemical weapons bans the first use, but not the possession or manufacture, of chemical weapons. Accordingly, from a strictly legal point of view, no-one on earth can challenge Libya's right or rather option to manufacture chemical weapons. That is why the Paris international conference on chemical weapons which started Saturday will have to close the existing dangerous gaps in the international treaty, namely, the production and export of poison gases. But to do that countries which already have chemical weapons — among which one will find the major powers including the superpowers — would have to renounce the production and possession of such weapons in addition to committing themselves against their first use. The big question thus remains whether the Paris conference would go as far as outlawing the production and possession of chemical weapons. If not, all those who profess concern over Libya's alleged manufacture of poison gases would remain empty-handed juridically speaking.

The advanced nations of the world can indeed set the proper example by yielding to common sense and allow for the plugging the two principal loopholes that exist in the 1925 convention of chemical weapons. This would strengthen the hands and arguments of the international community in its determination to wipe out mass destruction weapons from the face of the earth.

Of course such big lecturing countries would appear more credible and less double-faced were they to agree to eliminate the manufacture, possession and use of nuclear weapons as well. For as long as hypocrisy continues to shape the policies of the industrial nations on mass destructive weapons, the chances of ever controlling the proliferation of chemical weapons and other similar systems of weapons would continue to be undermined.

To be sure man has permanent vested interest in the elimination of mass destruction weapons. The on-going Paris conference of chemical weapons is one way, albeit modest and incomplete. The conference must succeed in incorporating the necessary supplementary provisions in the 1925 convention as the stakes for humanity are indeed formidable.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper Saturday underlined the importance of pan-Arab backing for the PLO and its drive to achieve a lasting peace. The paper pointed out that Jordan was continuing its unlimited support for the Palestinian people and the PLO, but it said that more concerted pan-Arab backing is needed. The King's talks with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian delegation Friday and the Monarch's continued endeavours on the pan-Arab and international levels represent Jordan's clear policies in support of the Palestinians and current efforts being focused on the convening of an international conference to find a lasting settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper said. Jordan is not satisfied with this role but its endeavours also aimed at backing the uprising of the Palestinians inside the occupied territories after succeeding in fending off all forms of pressure to change its position, the paper added. It said that what is needed now is an all-out Arab support for the current endeavours for peace.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily writes Saturday on the Palestine problem and the unity between Jordan and Palestine in confronting the common enemy and for the sake of attaining the common goal. Abdul Rahim Omar says that Jordanians and Palestinians living here or abroad have so many things in common; and the Palestine question serves as a common denominator and as a focal point in their common drive to rally the Arabs and the world community for assisting the oppressed people of Palestine. Jordan's political and economic policies are geared towards helping their brothers, the Palestinian people, to regain their rights; and the Kingdom had served since 1948 as a field of struggle for both the Palestinians and Jordanians in confrontation with the common enemy, and indeed Jordan and its people have formed a real source of strength for the Palestinians in the political, economic and military fields, the writer points out. He says that King Hussein's efforts and Jordan's decision to sever ties with the West Bank paved the way for the PLO leadership to pursue endeavours worldwide to advocate the cause of the Palestinians. But, he adds, all that has been achieved at the U.N. and throughout the world represented a mere first step in the long march towards a settlement, since the common Israeli enemy continues to commit massacres against the Palestinians and continues to occupy Arab land and is determined to perpetuate its occupation of Palestine.

Al Dustour daily described Arafat's talks with the King as part of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian diplomatic effort which so far achieved real success. Jordan is indeed delighted over the PLO's successes in the international arena and continues to back the PLO's contacts and activities for reaching peace, the paper noted. It said that King Hussein voiced Jordan's unwavering backing for Arafat and his efforts, and there is no doubt that the Monarch will maintain his endeavours in the Arab World and abroad to help the PLO leadership attain national objectives of the Palestinian people. Arafat's constant consultations with the King on every move manifests the Palestinian leader's total and absolute confidence that Jordan will continue to lead the way in all matters related to the Palestinian people's rights, and that it will pursue the struggle to help them attain their goal.

Sawt Al Shaab daily described the Palestinian-Jordanian talks in Amman as crowning the latest series of diplomatic efforts worldwide in support of the people of Palestine in their drive to attain freedom. The paper noted that the joint successes were triggered by Amman's decision to sever ties with the West Bank, which the paper noted, had opened the way for the PLO leadership to back the uprising at the international level and in all diplomatic circles.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

A budget to reflect adjustment

THE MARKET was attentive to the announcement of the budget for 1989 to make a judgment on the seriousness of the government in carrying out its commitment to financial austerity and prudence, especially after the monetary crisis which shook the market in 1988.

Expectations varied widely, but the budget came as no surprise. Its normal size is 1 per cent down, recurring expenditure is 4.2 per cent up, and capital expenditure is 10 per cent down.

Perhaps the best way to read a budget is to start from the bottom up. The bottom line in 1989 budget indicates a deficit of JD122.2 million. This amount is around half the actual deficit sustained in 1988, but double the deficit envisaged by the budget of 1988. If what happened in 1988 is an indicator to what may happen in 1989, the final deficit may be much higher, especially in view of the natural tendency to overestimate revenues and under estimate expenditure resulting in an understated deficit.

Deficit in 1989 budget is actually higher than the above suggested figure, because the developmental loans of JD103 million were — as always — classified as revenues. Thus the planned deficit is effectively JD225 million or 13 per cent of GDP, of which JD103 million will be covered from external development loans (70%) and internal borrowing (30%), while the

balance will be covered by commercial loans and from the Central Bank.

In order for the government to keep the deficit within the determined limits, it has not only to achieve the estimated revenues but also to receive more Arab aid than was actually received in 1988. This is of course an optimistic position which could not have been taken by the Ministry of Finance unless they have dependable assurances that Arab aid will be forthcoming.

Of course, economists have to take into account that the purchasing power of the JD in 1989 will be around 20 per cent lower. The fact that the government kept its public expenditure within 99 per cent of the actual expenditure of 1988, means an implicit cut in expenses of over 20 per cent. This is a remarkable measure of reduction, provided of course that the government will adhere strictly to the allocations stipulated in the budget document.

Over 20 per cent of the budget or JD209.7 million were devoted to debt service, local and external. Around half of this allocation or JD108.4 million represents interest, and the other half or JD101.3 million represents installments. The share of external debt service is 70 per cent of the total debt service, while 30 per cent only will go to service domestic public debt.

The allocations for external debt service came out at below 50 per cent of the independently estimated debt service of the country for 1989. Apparently the public corporations and military loans were not included in the central government budget. It is also very likely that a rescheduling arrangement may take place in 1989, to scale down debt service for sometime, to enable the country to readjust the economy.

The Minister of Finance pointed out strong and weak areas in the economy. On the positive side he cited enlightened leadership, flexibility of the economic system, the openness of the economy, the stability and security of the society, the maturity of the people, and the adequacy of the public services.

On the negative side the minister pointed out four imbalances, such as the insufficiency of commodity output, the deficit in the budget, the deficit in the balance of payments, and the unemployment in the labour market. He did not elaborate on how the budget will specifically deal with each of these important imbalances. Overall, the budget could not be dismissed as irrelevant to the current economic difficulties. It is rather realistic and can be considered a step in the right direction, provided of course that the government will observe its limits strictly as the minister promised.

Palestine movement — from liberation to independence

Edward Said, Professor of English literature at Columbia University, is a prominent member of the Palestine National Council (PNC). He attended the Nov. 12-15 PNC session during which an independent Palestinian state was declared. In the following article, which originally appeared in the Dec. 12 issue of the Nation magazine, Said reflects on the proceedings of the session and the implications of the resolutions and political programme adopted during the session for Palestinians and for the world at large.

THE NINETEENTH session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), formally titled the "Intifada Meeting," was momentous and, in many great and small ways, unprecedented. There were fewer hangers-on, groupies and "observers" than ever before. Security was tighter and more unpleasant than during the 1987 PNC session, also held in Algiers. The three-and-a-half day conclave also accomplished more than any Palestinian meeting in the post-1948 period. Above all, it secured for Yasser Arafat his place in Palestinian and world history.

None of the approximately 380 members came to Algiers with any illusion that Palestinians could again get away simply with creative ambiguity or solid affirmations of the need to struggle. The *intifada*'s momentum and its ability to have created a clear civil alternative to the Israeli occupation regime necessitated a definitive statement of support by the PNC. This required an unambiguous claim for sovereignty over whatever Palestinian territories were to be vacated by the occupation. There also had to be an equally unambiguous statement on peaceful resolution of the conflict between Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews, based on U.N. Resolutions 181 (partition), 242 and 338. In short, the PNC was asking of itself nothing less than an emphatic transformation: from liberation movement to independence movement. Jordan's severing of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank made the need for transformation urgent and compelling.

Everyone gathered in Algiers knew that this profound step was Arafat's: first to define, then to persuade us to take, then finally to choreograph politically. When I arrived, he handed me the Arabic draft of the declaration of statehood and asked me to render it into English. It had been written by a committee, then rewritten by Mahmoud Darwish, then, alas, covered with often ludicrously clumsy insertions and inexplicable deletions. Darwish later told me that the "Old Man" had struck the phrase "collective memory" because, we opined, he took it as poetic. "Tell him it has a serious and even scientific meaning," Darwish implored me; "maybe he'll listen to you." He

said the clear acceptance of 242 and 338, resolutions unfriendly to Palestinians not only because they treat us simply as "refugees" but also because they contain an implicit pre-negotiating recognition of Israel. This, Habash said, was going too far too soon; there had been agreement that such tough issues as recognition, 242, borders, etc., would be handled at the international conference. Why, Habash asked, must we go forward on everything before the conference? He spoke passionately, saying without hesitation that he and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine wished to remain in the PLO no matter what the outcome or

The point is not that the council's documents are perfect and complete but that they must be interpreted as everyone in Algiers intended — as a beginning that signals a distinct break with the past, as an assertion of willingness to make sacrifices in the interests of peace, as a definitive statement of the Palestinian acceptance of the international consensus.

the disagreements. To which, in a superbly meandering and yet fascinating speech, Abu Iyad said that decisions had to be made now, not only in the face of the discouraging realities of the Israeli elections but because our people needed an immediate, concrete statement of our goals. What clinched it for me was the logic of Abu Iyad's thesis that decisive clarity was necessary principally for ourselves and our friends, not because our enemies kept hectoring us to make more concessions.

By about 9:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, the political programme had been passed by a large majority

voting by acclamation wasn't going to be enough; Habash had insisted on precise tallies, which emerged to his disadvantage: 253 for, 46 against, 10 abstaining. There was a sad nostalgia to what he represented, since in effect by voting against him we were taking leave of the past as embodied in his defiant gestures. The declaration ceremonies that closed the meetings were jubilant, yet somehow melancholy.

About this break with the past there could be no doubt whatever. To declare statehood on the basis of Resolution 181 was first of all to say unequivocally that an Arab Palestinian and an Israeli



Palestine embassy opens

(Continued from page 1)

once the Palestinian state is established."

He said the Palestinian embassy in Jordan had no special legal status, but that it had a special and distinguished role reflecting the special relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and between the Jordanian government and the PLO.

PLO spokesman Ahmad Abdulla Rahim said the hoisting of the flag was a confirmation of the Jordanian position supporting the independent Palestinian state. "It is a sign of support (both) to the independent state and the Palestinian political initiative," he told reporters at the embassy.

Arafat also said the U.S. downing of two Libyan jets last Wednesday would damage efforts for Middle East peace.

"We believe this incident will reflect negatively on the march of peace in the region and escalate the situation," he told reporters shortly after the inauguration of the embassy in Amman.

(Continued from page 1)

Qatar and China announced Saturday that they would upgrade the PLO mission in their capitals to embassies. Countries that have already given the PLO offices in their capitals embassy status are Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates.

The King's meeting with Arafat earlier was attended on the Jordanian side by Rifai and Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. On the Palestinian side, the talks were attended by Executive Committee members Mahmoud Abbas, Abdul Razzak Al Yahya and Mohammad Milhem, in addition to Arafat advisor Hani Al Hassan.

Arafat also said the U.S. downing of two Libyan jets last Wednesday would damage efforts for Middle East peace.

"We believe this incident will reflect negatively on the march of peace in the region and escalate the situation," he told reporters shortly after the inauguration of the embassy in Amman.

However, Abu Sharif points

14 Palestinians wounded

(Continued from page 1)

bombs were thrown at a parked truck in the Gilo neighbourhood, causing slight damage, police said.

The Gaza Strip curfews imposed overnight remained in force on Nuseirat, Deir Al Balagh, Shati' camps and on Rafah town. Palestinians said the army also imposed a curfew on Shaboura camp Saturday.

The underground leaders of the uprising called on the United States Saturday to recognise an independent Palestinian state and the Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

The leadership said in a communiqué, telefaxed to the AP in Cyprus by the Palestinian news agency WAFA, that the U.S. decision last month to open direct talks with the PLO "is considered a modest minimum" for accepting the Americans as a political mediator in the Middle East peace process.

The communiqué declared: "The PLO warns against dragging the dialogue into a labyrinth of prevarication and disregard for

the blood of the martyrs and the great sacrifices of our people."

The communiqué said that the uprising was a key factor in pushing Washington to end a 13-year ban on negotiations with the PLO.

The communiqué said that the United States "should accompany its dialogue with a formal recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, or accept demilitarisation, or allow Palestinian fears, or stop killing civilians, or end the occupation, or answer any questions at all?" Perhaps the media will break their silence, as Palestinians already have.

Thirdly, the rejection of terrorism (also affirmed in the declaration) emphatically distinguishes between resistance to occupation, to which Palestinians are entitled according to the U.N. Charter and international law, and indiscriminate violence against civilians by states or by individuals and groups. Note that there exists no all-purpose definition of terrorism, one that has international validity and impartiality of application. Also note that Israel has always arrogated to itself the right to attack civilians in the

sovereignty of our homeland."

The communiqué also called on European countries to upgrade PLO offices in their capitals to embassy status following the declaration of an independent Palestinian state in November by the Palestine National Council.

The communiqué said that the Europeans should also press for an international Middle East peace conference at which the PLO would attend on an equal footing with other parties

Hirohito passes away

(Continued from page 1)

Japanese form of wrestling. Hirohito wrote 12 books on hydrozoans, small sea animals.

The world's oldest imperial line — held by the same family since at least the 8th century and by legend since 660 B.C. — passed automatically to Akihito.

If tradition is followed, there will be at least 61 different emperors over the next two years until Akihito is formally enthroned.

Aesthetics in the service of enlightenment

Günther Grass processes his experiences in India in his book "Zunge zeigen"

CALCUTTA — A source of great fascination for many a European, magnetic and repellent at one and the same time. The peculiar schizophrenic charm of this metropolis in West Bengal seems to have a particular effect on artists, especially Germans: Franz Xaver Kroetz, Tankred Dorst, and film-director Reinhard Hauff have all been there.

Günther Grass visited Calcutta in 1975 — as a tourist. He incorporated his experiences in his novel "Der Butt" (The Butt) which was published in 1977. Eleven years later, Günther Grass, author and graphic artist, returned to Bengal; this time to write, to draw. He lived in Barrupur, a southern suburb of Calcutta from August to October 1986, and then in Lake Town, East Calcutta, till January 1987. His excursions took him to Vishnupur, Puri, Santiniketan, Madras, Hyderabad, Poona, and Dacca, capital of Bangladesh. But why this return to Calcutta, this "crumbling, scabby, teeming ... city"? Was it perhaps because as he writes in "Der Butt" — "it

is so horribly beautiful in its wretchedness"?

Literary critic Peter von Beck visited Grass during his last stay in Calcutta and received this answer: "no other city are all global conflicts so reflected as they are here: the clash between the First and Third Worlds, the heritage of colonialism, the proliferation of capitalism and the helplessness of the ruling Socialist Party (as the 'Communist-Marxist Party' in Bengal for over ten years)." This is the answer of the enlightener, the politically committed artist. Günther Grass, who has devoted himself more and more in the last ten years to subjects generally criticising civilisation, including the problems of the Third World — such as in "Kopfgeburten oder Die Deutschen sterben aus" (1980), and even more pronounced in his controversial novel ("Die Rättin" 1986).

Readers (and viewers) learn of other, partly personal, partly artistic motives for Günther Grass's return to the "dying city" (Rajiv Gandhi) in his latest book which, by means of drawings,

poetry and prose, is designed to record what the author and his wife Ute experienced in Bengal. "Zunge zeigen" — highly individualistic in form and content — is a typical Grass mixture of documentary, diary, essay and narrative.

"Zunge zeigen" (literal translation: "Show Your Tongue") — the title suggests, what not only many writers but also many Europeans feel when confronted with the appalling misery of large Indian cities: a sense of shame at one's own highly secure existence. Kalikata, city of Kali, the goddess of destruction who, in her frenzy, would have even throttled her husband Shiva if she hadn't come to her senses at the last moment: She shows her tongue — out of shame. Grass: "This metaphor of the concept of shame runs parallel to my written attempt to find new designations for shame."

"Zunge zeigen" exposing oneself to a sense of shame, is, as far as Grass is concerned, an attempt to keep one's distance from the all-too accepted standards of civilised life and problems which — faced with the fight for bare survival — turn out to be phoney. Re-examining one's own existence objectively; Günther Grass only realises this epistemological goal half-heartedly: "Zunge zeigen" is a literary-graphic hotchpotch which fails to unite into a homogenous whole. Constantly recurring and longwinded descriptions of poverty and distress in Calcutta's streets, markets and squares, descriptions of



Drawing by Günther Grass: Self-portrait with rat

his personal state, recorded experiences, invective vis-à-vis the Germany literary scene, and literary criticism — which had taken his novel, published shortly before, severely to task — excursions into German literature

BOOK REVIEW

(Fontane, Schopenhauer, Lichtenberg, Thomas Mann comprised, inter alia, the literary luggage of the "displeased traveller" as Grass styled himself, quoting Chagall); all this is to be found in "Zunge zeigen", a sense of shame also becomes him who sees, writes and is shocked — but who is and remains a voyeur — even it is not the way he meant it.

Peter Bonsen
In Press

but vain attempt by an enlightened European to penetrate the phenomenon of India. His failure to do so shows the helplessness of a politically committed, upright author confronted with the force of the problems in the Third World. It reveals how little can be understood of a foreign culture, heavily moulded by religion, if one naively applies the standards of 18th century Europe and its rationalism and claim to universal validity. "Zunge zeigen", a sense of shame also becomes him who sees, writes and is shocked — but who is and remains a voyeur — even it is not the way he meant it.

After the translations of Galen's anatomy, especially re-

garding ophthalmology, several treatises and discussions were accorded the subject. Most important among them were those of Hunayn, who in the ninth century composed ten treatises on the eye, in collaboration with his nephew, Hubaysh al-Asam of Damascus.

Considered the first systematic and rational manual of ophthalmology, it contains drawings showing the anatomy and function of the eye, and established Arabic terminologies and definitions as a pattern for later authors. Well-balanced in methodology, it demonstrated the analysis of observed phenomena according to the Greek scientific tradition. By the end of the 10th century, Ali Isa's *Tadzhirat al-Kahhalin* upheld the tradition of Islamic ophthalmology, which significantly surpassed all similar works for almost 700 years.

The Iraqi Ammar al-Mawsili, who lived in Egypt, also wrote a praiseworthy ophthalmological tract. In it, he described clearly and rationally the tools and procedures of the cataract operation in minute detail. The discourse, considered a masterpiece in the history of ophthalmology, has continued in Muslim cities up to the present time.

There were three classes of apothecaries:

One: the collectors and vendors of medicinal herbs and spices who included the manufacturers of syrups, cosmetics and aromated waters.

Two: the regular apothecaries,

whose knowledge of the simple and compound drugs was based not on formal academic training, but on practice and apprenticeship. They generally gathered in the bazaar, displaying all kinds of herbs and spices. The practice has continued in Muslim cities up to the present time.

Three: the educated pharmacists, who were professionally well-qualified in the art. They established and managed private shops, where they prepared and dispensed prescriptions under the physician's orders. Some also formulated their own medicines.

Several authored works on the profession, which dealt not only with the formulation of medicines, but also stressed the importance of ethics in the practice of pharmacy. *Jordan Magazine*

Decline of 'the people's fuel' in southern Africa

By Maggie James

A new study into the use of fuelwood across a large area of Africa reveals that an energy crisis is unfolding in the region. Its effects are not so immediately obvious to governments as the oil crisis of the 1970s, because the problem is spread over dispersed locations, but the gradually declining fuelwood supplies have serious short and long term effects.

LONDON — A decline in food production per capita, increasing poverty and rising debt are predicaments facing Africa today. Added to those is the environmental crisis now unfolding on the continent, which will greatly affect the other three.

Wood shortage lies at the core of that environmental crisis, but the authors of a new study say that developing a policy for woody-biomass management can positively affect all four aspects of Africa's crisis because biomass, including trees and shrubs, vegetation, live fences and crop or animal residues, protects Africa's soils and hence its productive

potential.

It also provides many of the needs of Africa's peoples. Annually, the study points out, 3.7 million hectares (9.25 million acres) of woodland and forest disappear, and more than a quarter of the continent is undergoing desertification ranging from moderate to severe.

An association of nine southern African countries covering a broad band across the continent was formed in 1980 to work together on development problems in the region. The countries — Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zim-

bawie — constitute the southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADC).

The region is inhabited by over 60 million people, the majority of whom use woodfuel for domestic use. Supplies are rapidly diminishing with increased consumption. By the year 2000 there will be well over 100 million people living in the region. The vast majority will still rely on woodfuel for domestic energy use, yet some areas are already having difficulty in obtaining sufficient supply.

In some African countries, where urban energy consumption is still predominantly from wood, it will equal or surpass rural consumption within the next 20 years as urban areas continue to expand rapidly.

The energy sector of the SADC, commissioned a team to study the region's fuelwood situa-

tion and develop a policy for the future. *The Fuelwood Trap: A Study of the SADC Region*, published by Earthscan Publications Limited, is the conclusion of that study. The main contributors were Barry Munslow, director of the Centre for African Studies, University of Liverpool; Yemi Katere, deputy chief of Forestry in Zimbabwe; Adrian Ferf, manager of the ETC Foundation (Consultants for Development) in the Netherlands and Phil O'Keefe, reader in geography and environment at Newcastle Polytechnic. The study was jointly financed by the Netherlands government and the European Economic Community.

The seriousness of the problem, say the authors, is enormously magnified by the fragility of Africa's soils. "Spanning the Equator, like no other continent, Africa receives the assault of the sun and the battering of a heavy but erratic rainfall. Given the poverty of the people, this climate produces disease and pests in abundance.

In many areas sleeping sickness (trypanosomiasis), for example, makes the use of draught animals for the intensification of agriculture difficult. Biomass cover gives protection from the sun and rain to the continent's fragile soils. Remove it and the climate wreaks a terrible revenge, soils

are washed away and fertility is lost." They advocate that maintaining a biomass cover is absolutely vital to a sustainable African environment.

The authors define 'the fuelwood trap' as the assumption by governments and donor agencies that they have identified an obvious problem and that there is a simple solution. The problem is real and worsening, they say, and there is no easy solution. Fuelwood shortage and energy poverty is worsening. The labour burden on women, who have to gather the wood, is increasing and the quality of domestic life being affected as a result. The rapid environmental deterioration caused by deforestation threatens food production and even life-support systems.

It is the versatility of wood and the fact that it is easily, often freely available which has brought about its scarcity. For the small farmer, the study points out, trees provide many of the vital requirements. These include timber to build houses, barns and fences; fodder and rubbing poles for their cattle; pharmaceuticals; agricultural implements; protection against wind and water erosion; maintenance of soil fertility; provision of fruit and a habitat for game which is hunted and provides protein. The list could go on and on, with trees furnishing ev-

erything from cosmetics to shade from the harsh sun.

The study concludes that rural and urban areas need separate strategies. The rural areas are where fuelwood is produced and consumed. Neither the cash nor the distribution system are sufficient to permit widespread conservation or fuel-switching options on a scale large enough to reduce the fuelwood demand of a rising population.

In urban areas, which essentially consume rather than produce fuelwood, cash is available, so is a

distribution and marketing network to enable fuel-switching, conservation and other initiatives. But the problems of the two areas are interlinked, because urban growth and the subsequent higher demand for fuelwood encroaches into rural areas.

The authors urge that a new way of understanding the problem be adopted, with a special regard to people's needs. They propose that new relationships go beyond energy and forestry projects and are incorporated into as many other development schemes as possible — Academic File.

ment, environment and agriculture. These "new relationships," they say, will be the basis for making the most of future wood supplies.

Most importantly, these new relationships can be used to develop research and extension networks that will support woody biomass production by local farmers. This requires that strategies go beyond energy and forestry projects and are incorporated into as many other development schemes as possible — Academic File.

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A society questions itself

By Ya'acov Friedler

A POSSIBLE blessing in disguise was how leftist Jewish and Arab writers discerned the uprising in the territories in a discussion on "Israeli society in the shadow of the intifada" at the Tzavta Club in Haifa on a Saturday night, last month.

Illusions had been painfully shattered on both sides, they agreed. The Jews now realised that "we cannot permanently subject a people striving for independence," and the Palestinians that "they must themselves settle for the possible," because the Arab states are not after all going to destroy Israel for them.

While decrying the intifada's "frightening impact" on Israeli society — "making it hard to return to civilised norms" — Nathan Shaham considered it to our credit that we have shown ourselves mentally unable to suppress another people. But the damage would last a long time, for young soldiers trained to believe that even such a deep conflict could be resolved by force could in future resort to such force to settle all quarrels.

Salman Natour held that what had surprised the Israeli leadership was not the outbreak of the intifada, "because the security people knew very well it was coming," but their own stupidity in believing that by a few shootings, demolitions and armoured cars in the streets, "they could quickly put down one of history's wonderful examples of a people fighting for liberty and sovereignty in their land."

He believed "it was the beginning of the peace process in the Middle East. All the plans for autonomy and transfer have been

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Of discourses and ethics

Dr. Sami H. Hamarneh

Al-Razi is considered one of the greatest clinicians in Islam, and one of the most original physicians throughout the Middle Ages. During his life (865-925), he wrote over 50 books and treatises on medical, pharmaceutical and chemical themes. In his discourse "On Immediate Cure," al-Razi explained how the physician can cure within a short time many common diseases by using simple, familiar remedies. In another discourse "On Smallpox and Measles," a masterpiece in medical literature, he identified both diseases, their differentiation and the means of treatment.

Al-Razi's study on internal medicine, which subsequently was translated into Latin and became a basic reference text, addressed a wide range of topics, from diet and disease to human behaviour and the effect of environment on the health.

The treatment of eye diseases, which received special attention in Islam, surpassed the classical writings of the past and continued in a leading role up to the late European Renaissance. Its remarkable progress can be ascribed to many factors, important among them the prevalence of eye diseases and the great effort expended to promote healthy vision.

With the evolution of a systematic medical literature, pharmacology rapidly developed, as well. Under the patronage and the encourage-

ment of the first Abbasid caliphs in Baghdad, pharmacy emerged as a professional entity separate from, yet supplementary, to medicine. Apothecary shops appeared in urban centres and around military camps for the first time in history, and pharmacy departments were established within the confines of state-operated hospitals.

There were three classes of apothecaries:

One: the collectors and vendors of medicinal herbs and spices who included the manufacturers of syrups, cosmetics and aromated waters.

Two: the regular apothecaries,

whose knowledge of the simple and compound drugs was based not on formal academic training, but on practice and apprenticeship.

Three: the educated pharmacists, who were professionally well-qualified in the art. They established and managed private shops, where they prepared and dispensed prescriptions under the physician's orders. Some also formulated their own medicines.

Several authored works on the profession, which dealt not only with the formulation of medicines, but also stressed the importance of ethics in the practice of pharmacy. *Jordan Magazine*

Southern Africa Crisis

1 Angola

2 Zambia

3 Tanzania

4 Botswana

5 Zimbabwe

6 Malawi

7 Mozambique

8 Swaziland

9 Lesotho

Southern Africa Crisis

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Last Reagan budget to propose an end to 80 U.S. programmes

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan plans one last try to slash spending by proposing the elimination of about 80 government programmes in his fiscal 1990 budget proposal, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Friday.

"Our budget will eliminate some 80 programmes... programmes that we had proposed for elimination in the past, but didn't receive for one reason or another," Fitzwater said.

Previous Reagan efforts to wipe out a variety of domestic programmes including urban development grants and Amtrak rail system subsidies have been regularly rebuffed by Congress.

Fitzwater said Reagan's final budget, to be made public Monday, will project a deficit of about \$95 billion compared to \$155 billion in fiscal 1988, which was completed last September, and between \$145 billion and \$155 billion this year.

White House budget experts say the deficit would total \$127 billion in the 1990 fiscal year that begins Oct. 1 if current policies are retained. Congressional analysts are projecting a \$141 billion deficit under current policy.

Fitzwater said Reagan's budget would propose spending cuts of between \$32 billion and \$35 billion.

Fitzwater hinted that the Reagan budget will include some revenue-raising measures, such as increased user fees for government services, but said there would be no tax increases.

Separately, President-elect Bush renewed his pledge against raising taxes as a way to reduce the deficit.

Discussing jobs data released Friday, Bush told reporters he would seek further cuts in joblessness and that "one way to do that is to slow the economy down by raising taxes."

Bush campaigned on a no-tax platform, telling audiences: "Read my lips. No new taxes."

He has called deficit reduction his number one priority and said it can be accomplished by freezing overall federal spending.

Bush said Friday he would make his own budget proposals public in an address to Congress shortly after he becomes president Jan. 20.

Unemployment report reflects strong economy

Meanwhile, the government's

December employment report reflects a U.S. economy that finished the year as vigorously as it started, economists said.

The Labour Department said Friday that the nation's civilian unemployment rate matched a 14-year low of 5.3 per cent in December, down from 5.4 per cent in November.

At the same time, the job growth slowed last month, with 27,000 non-farm jobs created in December after a surge of 40,000 in November, the department said.

But job growth in the final quarter of 1988 was still at a strong 919,000, pushing payrolls up to 107.7 million, a gain of 3.7 million from the end of 1987.

Economists view job growth as a leading indicator which foreshadows economic trends.

Based on the latest gain, some economists expect the U.S. non-farm economic growth rate in the fourth quarter will be between 3.5 and 4.0 per cent, although total growth is expected to be lower because of crop and livestock losses from last summer's drought.

"It seems to be more of the same, which to me means robust economic growth," said economist Michael Penzer of Bank of America. "Job growth in the fourth quarter was very similar on

average to what it was in the first three quarters."

"The jobs increase was solid," added economist Allen Sinai. "It certainly was indicative of a strong economy."

The economy started the year with a robust 3.4 per cent annual growth rate in the first three months and slipped to a 3.0 per cent rate in the second quarter. In the third period it fell to a 2.5 per cent rate, although the non-farm rate was still a vibrant 3.1 per cent.

The government will issue its first estimate of the economy's fourth quarter performance Jan. 27.

December's job growth was mostly in service-producing industries, where 230,000 jobs were added in the wholesale, retail, finance and health industries and in government.

Only 49,000 of the jobs created in December were in goods-producing industries, mostly in factories.

Manufacturing industry job growth has been brisk over the past year, with more than 400,000 jobs added to payrolls as factories geared up to meet booming export demand.

The rapid pace of overall job growth over the past year has been a source of concern for financial markets.

Indonesia sees chance for higher oil prices

JAKARTA (R) — Oil prices could rise further if producers keep a lid on exports, Indonesia's energy minister said Saturday.

"If non-OPEC countries cut production by five per cent and all OPEC members stick to their quotas then we can see \$18 before June... the sooner we restore prices the earlier we can produce more oil," Ginanjar Kartasasmita said.

"By mid-1990 it could be \$20 but done in such a way that won't cause instability in the economies of our consumers. We should not create recession or inflation but prices should rise in a manner supported by the markets," he said.

"I think OPEC has learned its lesson and is not going to make another mistake," he added.

The OPEC agreement in November in Vienna was designed to stop excessive production of oil which was undermining prices.

Ginanjar was speaking to Reuters in an interview shortly after Indonesia's OPEC's only Asian member, announced it would calculate its budget for the next financial year at \$14 a barrel.

The current price for Indonesia's Minas crude is around \$16.

"I am surprised prices have increased and are getting better so soon. I didn't expect prices would go above \$14 in June. It's way beyond our expectations," he said.

Although the rise was partly psychological "I think fundamental factors are supporting the price," he added.

January heralded the start of a six-month pledge by all 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to keep exports down and aim for a price of \$18.

The recent price rise suggested world stocks of oil may not be as high as believed and supplies were limited partly due to increased demand in Japan and lower production in the North Sea, he said.

He dismissed speculation that the United Arab Emirates was exceeding its OPEC quota. "If it was true, it would have had some effect on the market," he said.

Although most of the oil producing group's problems had been solved it still needed a long-term strategy. "If we can have permanent quotas that would be ideal."

Ginanjar leaves Sunday for low-OPEC countries Venezuela and Ecuador along with non-member producers Columbia and Mexico. Indonesia, Asia's largest oil exporter, is one of six OPEC countries which have formed a committee to reestablish contact with non-OPEC oil producers.

Ecuador Energy Minister Diego Tamariz said last week the two sides would meet soon to get independent oil producers to cut production and bolster prices.

"We will see how we can work together to maintain stability in the market. I hope they (non-OPEC members) can come up with restraints as a response to OPEC's voluntary cuts," Ginanjar said. "Any non-OPEC cut will be helpful. The higher the cut the better."

But OPEC would need to sort out its remaining problems before there could be any meeting of member heads of state which has been suggested by Venezuela.

Any summit should look to the future and must be preceded by carefully prepared ministerial talks, Ginanjar said.

U.S. crude oil prices may test \$18 this week

In New York, industry analysts

said U.S. crude oil prices, which ended the first week of 1989 about 30 cents a barrel higher, may test the \$18 mark this week on prospects of lower output by OPEC and production problems in the North Sea.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange the February contract in West Texas Intermediate, the key U.S. crude, closed Friday at \$17.55 a barrel, up 13 cents on the day and an increase of 31

cents from the previous Friday. "It seems as if we have all the signals pointing to higher prices," said Nauman Barakat, vice president of energy investments at Prudential-Bache Securities Inc.

Barakat said signs that OPEC intends, at least initially, to adhere to its new production ceiling of 18.5 million barrels per day has strengthened prices. Oil production by several non-OPEC countries has also declined, Barakat said.

U.S. oil prices rose on news of production losses stemming from accidents in the North Sea and a possible squeeze in the North Sea Brent 15-day forward crude market, analysts said.

A squeeze is anticipated because a trading company has done a series of deals in London in which it bought January and sold February contracts, and appears to be cornering the market in the 15-day forward market.

If a squeeze on January Brent crude materializes, U.S. oil prices could rise to \$18.25 a barrel by mid-month, said Jayne Ball of Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.

Supply is already tight due to production cutbacks of more than 10 per cent in the North Sea following a series of accidents there, traders said.

An explosion shut down one of four production platforms in the Brent Field Jan. 1. The platform may start partial production in seven to 10 days, according to a spokesman for Royal Dutch/Shell group, which operates the platform.

U.K. crude production was further hampered when a storage tanker broke free from its moorings in the North Sea recently, leaving three oilfields without a central collection point. Officials said it could take several weeks to repair the damage to the tanker.

Norway sees no rise in oil prices despite OPEC pact

Opposing the previous comments, Norwegian Oil Minister Arne Oeien said Friday in Kuwait

that world oil prices were unlikely to rise during the next few months despite a new OPEC output pact effective from Jan. 1.

"The best we can hope for is that the present price level can be maintained for the next couple of months," he told reporters on arrival in Kuwait, a major OPEC oil producer, to talk with the emir, prime minister and oil minister.

Norway, while not a member of OPEC, has curbed planned output growth to help the group stabilise prices.

Oeien said Norway, Western Europe's biggest oil producer after Britain, was doing all it could to help OPEC. The government last month extended for another six months a 7.5 per cent cut in planned output growth first introduced in February 1987.

Oeien welcomed any similar moves by other independent producers but said Norway would not be attending a meeting of non-OPEC states scheduled for Jan. 25 in London.

If these meetings are doing to have any sense it must be because the participating countries have something to contribute. At this stage we have nothing further to contribute. Then I think the best thing is to stay out of it," he said.

"It has been our policy to support OPEC by unilateral measures. It would be a new thing if we entered into any sort of multinational agreement. That does not mean I am ruling it out for the future," he added.

He said he did not expect the Kuwaiti oil minister to ask Norway directly to cut its actual as opposed to planned production.

"I expect Ali Khalifa to point out that this would help stabilise the oil market. But since we are not members of OPEC I don't expect him to make any demands," Oeien said.

Norwegian production, now running around 1.2 million b/d, is due to increase to some 1.5 million b/d by mid-year as new capacity comes on stream.

Artificially low prices corrupt Soviet economy,

MOSCOW (R) — State subsidies to keep prices artificially low are corrupting the Soviet economy and creating a breeding ground for black market operations, according to a Soviet newspaper.

Shortages, unbridled speculation and theft which result from the subsidy system lead eventually to economic collapse, I. Kotlyar, a professor from the central Russian city of Gorky, wrote in Sotsialisticheskaya Industria.

Kotlyar said it was naive to think that the corruption, embezzlement and black-market dealings recently exposed in some

parts of the country were not widespread.

"If there are material conditions for abuse, they inevitably appear," he said. "The big differences in prices create such conditions everywhere."

Many Soviet citizens routinely turn to unofficial sources for services and basic commodities unavailable in the state sector. Recent figures show the black economy is thriving, with an annual turnover of 70-90 billion roubles (\$110-\$145 billion).

Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev is trying to tackle the problem with measures aimed at reviving state performance, but has put off price reform until the start of the 1990s.

Kotlyar contended that boosting state production of goods would do little to solve the problem. He said shortages did not appear linked to the level of production, noting that 50 years ago most products were well-supplied although output was lower.

Instead prices should be fixed according to demand, he said, dismissing arguments that the prices of basic commodities should be kept low in the interests of poor paid workers.

Kotlyar said that although state

French firm to search for oil off Qatar

NICOSIA (R) — The French oil company STE Nationale ELF Aquitaine signed an agreement Saturday to search for oil in the Gulf off Qatar, the Qatar News Agency said. Oil Minister Abdul Aziz Ibn Khalifa Al Thani signed a three-year accord with the company for exploration in deep waters, said the agency, monitored in Nicosia, Qatar, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has an output quota of 314,200 barrels per day.

Petroleum exports earn Algeria \$6.3b

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria produced 32 million tonnes of crude oil, 17.5 million tonnes of condensate, 3.5 million tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas and 93 billion cubic metres of natural gas last year, a government minister has said. Energy Minister Sadek Boussemra also told the official Arabic daily Ech Chabab in an interview that Algeria's petroleum and gas reserves were estimated at 4.2 billion tonnes of petroleum equivalent, of which 70 per cent was gas. He said petroleum exports in 1988 were worth 44 billion dinars (about \$6.3 billion).

The government planned to intensify efforts to find new deposits and to increase exports of natural gas from 26 billion cubic metres to 40 billions within the next five years, he said. It was hoped to develop gas exports by finding new markets in Europe, Africa and Japan, he said, stressing the importance of two gas pipeline projects: One across Morocco to Spain and the other across Tunisia to Libya. Algeria is to resume negotiations with France soon on a long-standing dispute over natural gas deliveries.

Taiwan-Vietnam sea link to open soon

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A Vietnamese company plans to begin a shipping service to Taiwan, an example of crumbling trade barriers between communist countries and this anti-communist island. Liu Jen-Feng, an official of Sankyo Shipping Co., has quoted an official of Vietnam's state-run Saigon Shipping Co. as saying his firm hoped to begin service to Taiwan in February or March. The

Vietnamese official, Ngo Luc Pai, made the statement during a visit to Taiwan's southern port of Kaohsiung, Liu said. Liu quoted Ngo as saying that a fleet of 14 freighters would travel between Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, and Kaohsiung. The nationalist Chinese government of Taiwan last month lifted a ban on direct shipping between Taiwan and Vietnam as part of a policy to ease restrictions on trade with communist countries. Kan Pei-Chung, a division chief of the Kaohsiung Port Bureau, said that move effectively scraps a ban on direct trade with Hanoi. A group of Taiwanese businessmen visited Vietnam in August and reportedly ordered lumber, scrap iron and rattan. Taiwan bans direct trade with China, the Soviet Union and some other communist countries but allows indirect trade through third countries. Taipei and Hanoi do not have diplomatic relations.

NYMEX to become partner in Globex

NEW YORK (R) — The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) have reached an agreement in principle under which NYMEX will become a partner in Globex, a unique after-hours trading system. Globex is a global automated futures and options trading system being developed by the CME and Reuters that will enable traders to conduct business electronically after regular market hours. The agreement makes NYMEX the first exchange to join the CME as a partner in the launch of the after-hours transaction system. The agreement will enable NYMEX to list any or all of its energy futures and options contracts as well as its platinum group metals on the Globex system. NYMEX's 816 members would have access to the Chicago futures market in crop and livestock products as well as stock indexes, treasury bills, foreign currencies and eurodollars. Like the CME, NYMEX will list its products for trading on Globex only outside its regular trading hours. Globex will not interfere with or alter the "open outcry" transaction system used on both exchanges. The new system will save both exchanges the expense of extending trading hours to coincide with futures market trading in Europe and Asia.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

| Name of company | Number of shares | Volume of trade | Opening price | Closing price | Par value |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Banking and financial institutions | | | | | |
| Industrial Development Bank | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Petra Bank | 150 | 269 | 1.880 | 1.790 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Islamic Bank | 395 | 559 | 1.450 | 1.440 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Kuwaiti Bank | 119414 | 149246 | 1.220 | 1.240 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Gulf Bank | 100 | 189 | 1.890 | 1.890 | 1.000 |
| Housing Bank | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Jordan Investment Bank | 61 | 925 | 15.550 | 15.000 | 5.000 |
| Cairo Arman Bank | 1410 | 195358 | 139.000 | 141.000 | 10.000 |
| Bank of Jordan | — | — | — | —</ | |

Sports

NBA Roundup

Pacers find new form

NEW YORK (AP) — Chuck Person scored 13 of his 28 points in the third quarter Friday night as the Indiana Pacers defeated the Los Angeles Clippers 123-88 and gave Dick Versace a victory in his National Basketball Association (NBA) coaching debut.

It was only the seventh victory in 30 games this season and the biggest winning margin in more than seven years for the Pacers, who Thursday announced the hiring of Versace, a former Detroit assistant, to succeed interim coach George Irvine.

Indiana scored the first six points of the game and never trailed the Clippers, who lost their fourth straight game.

Indiana's biggest lead was 41 points, 123-82, and the final margin was the Pacers' largest since a 36-point victory over Utah in December 1981.

Wayman Tisdale had 22 points and Herb Williams grabbed a career-high 19 for Indiana. Rookie guard Gary Grant led the Clippers with 19 points.

In other NBA Friday night, Boston whipped Charlotte 115-92. Detroit routed Atlanta 111-88. Milwaukee defeated Washington 128-121 after two overtime periods. Utah beat Chicago 106-92. Phoenix slipped past Dallas 120-111, the Los Angeles Lakers routed Miami 118-86, and Portland beat Sacramento 147-142 after two overtime periods.

Celtics 115, Hornets 92

Danny Ainge scored 25 points, leading six Boston scorers in double figures, as the Celts rolled to a 115-92 victory over Charlotte, handing the Hornets their 10th

consecutive road loss.

Pistons 111, Hawks 88

Detroit's Bill Laimbeer broke out of a six-game slump and keyed a second-quarter surge as the Pistons defeated Atlanta 111-88, giving Chuck Daly his 300th win as Detroit's coach.

Bucks 128, Bullets 121

Ricky Pierce scored four of his 29 points in the second overtime to lead the Milwaukee Bucks to a 128-121 victory over the Washington Bullets. Pierce had scored three of Milwaukee's 10 points in the first overtime, which ended with the score tied at 113.

Jazz 106, Bulls 92

Karl Malone scored 10 of his 22 second-half points during a decisive 16-4 third-quarter run and Thurl Bailey came off the bench to score 33 points as the Utah Jazz held off the Chicago Bulls 106-92.

Suns 120, Mavericks 111

Tom Chambers scored 31 points, Armon Gilliam 26 and Mark West added 24 plus 15 rebounds as the streaking Phoenix Suns won their 10th straight home game by beating the Dallas Mavericks 120-111.

Lakers 118, Heat 86

Orlando Woolridge scored 13 of his season-high 29 points in the third quarter and Magic Johnson added 25 as the Los Angeles Lakers dealt Miami its sixth straight defeat. The Lakers improved the NBA's best home record to 12-0.

Clyde Drexler scored eight of his career-high 30 points in the second overtime and the Portland Trail Blazers won their 11th straight home game with a 147-142 victory over the Sacramento Kings.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
A Q 7 2
K Q
8 4 2
A K Q 10

WEST
5 3
Q J 9 6 4
Q Q 10 7
J 9 8

EAST
- K
A 10 8 7 3
K 9 3
6 5 4 2

SOUTH
J 10 9 8 6 4
5 2
A 6 5
7 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of

You have watched in wonder as a bridge expert seemingly plucks tricks out of the fresh air, picking off singleton kings as if he were playing with glass cards? There's nothing miraculous about it. There's almost always a simple explanation for what he did.

The auction was routine. North's jump to four spades was not preemptive, but showed a very strong hand. With only one ace and no king or queen, even the six-card spade suit couldn't tempt South to

bid on.

West led the queen of diamonds, and the play was over in two shades of a puppy's tail. Declarer won the

ace in hand, led the jack of spades and, when West played low, rose with dummy's ace. When that fetched the king, declarer drew the remaining trump, discarded two diamonds on clubs when the jack in that suit dropped, and conceded only one heart trick.

Now South was a good enough player to know that the percentage play holding ten cards in a suit, missing the king, is to take the fitness. Why, then, did he rise with the ace?

The answer is simple enough—had the spade fitness lost, declarer would have gone down. He would have had to surrender a spade trick, two diamonds and the ace of hearts.

Declarer was not really trying to drop the king of trumps—that was an added bonus. He was simply trying to extract two of the defenders' trumps before tackling clubs. As long as trumps were 2-1, the contract would then have been guaranteed as long as the club break was no worse than 5-2. Declarer would always be able to get rid of at least one diamond loser on a high club.

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THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"We don't want to be married, separated, or divorced. What else is there?"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NY SOW

TH ACC

DILANI

TRYAGE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henn Arnold and Bob Lee

Here's a dime — now mow my lawn

HOW THE MISER GOT RICH

Now arrange the circled letters to form this surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THE " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumble: PIKER ABBOT HOMAGE CLERGY

Answer: What lightning gave the Frankenstein monster—A BIG "CHARGE"



Trick Cycling

What was originally a purely Germanic pastime has now blossomed, thanks to demonstrations all around the world, to the status of international sport — 23 countries recently took part in a World Championship held in Bavaria, including Jordan and Turkey. Here we see Hildegard Wohl and Martina Hempel, victors in the women's pairs competition, engaging in another breathtaking act of brave madness.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Hungary upset Brazil in indoor soccer

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Hungary upset Brazil on the second day of the World Indoor soccer championship shrugging off an early Brazilian lead to win 3-2. Brazil, playing their group B opener in the northern town of Leeuwarden, took the lead through Carlos Toca in the sixth minute and seemed set for a comfortable victory when Atila Storni made it 2-0 only six minutes later. But Hungary fought back with goals by Mihaly Borostyan in the 18th and Gyorgy Freppan in the 33rd minute, and Laszlo Zsadany netted what turned out to be the winner from a free-kick six minutes later.

Docter, Flaim ahead in speedskating

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Three-time Olympian Mary Docter and defending world all-around champion Eric Flaim were the leaders Friday after the first night of the U.S. International Speed Skating Association all-around championships. Docter, of the United States, won the women's 3,000-metres in 4 minutes, 38.56 seconds after finishing fourth in the first race of the championships — the 500 metres. Flaim, a silver medalist at the 1988 Olympics in the 1,500 metres, won the men's 5,000 metres, in 7:17.00 after finishing fifth in the 500. Olympians Bonnie Blair and Dan Jansen tool first in the 500-metre races at the Wisconsin Olympic rink.

Vatanen claims second Paris-Dakar stage

PARIS (R) — Finland's Ari Vatanen won the eighth timed stage of the Paris-Dakar motor rally for Peugeot. Friday, his second victory in two days and a performance which put him only 10 minutes behind Belgian Jacky Ickx overall. Overall leader Ickx finished third in the 200-km timed stage in high winds from Tahoua to Talchou in Niger on the way to the capital, Niamey. Guy Frequelin of France was second as Peugeot claimed the first three places of the day. Ickx, who came 10 minutes behind Vatanen, said he did not feel threatened by his team-mate's advance. "Ari is a sprinter but I am better over long distances. Today's short haul was more his style, but there's plenty of road between here and Dakar," he said. "There are no changes planned to our tactics. Peugeot is leading and will stay at the front right up to Dakar." Peugeot team boss Jean Todt said. Frenchman Patrick Tambay, third overall in his Mitsubishi, said he was looking forward to the long sandy stages starting on Saturday when the race goes over the border into Mali. "It's great to be third, but the Peugeot drivers have looked more at ease the last couple of days. We don't know yet how they will manage the last few stages to Dakar," he said. Motor-cycle competitors drove cautiously after Italy's Gianpiero Findanza suffered concussion and a broken elbow in a mid-stage accident.

16th deaf games start in New Zealand

CHRISTCHURCH (AP) — The 16th world games for the deaf opened Saturday at the Queen Elizabeth II Park stadium with ceremonies involving 1,400 athletes from nearly 30 countries. Opening ceremonies included a traditional march by all competitors and displays by dance groups, skydivers and a Maori war chant. Newly appointed health minister David Caygill declared the games open, noting there were more athletes competing than in the 1974 Commonwealth games, for which the stadium was built.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Optimism is the keyword for this day. Travel plans for the future can be made. Guard against overconfidence that may lead to activities that do not fit your lifestyle or current budget or plans.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Problems can be easily solved today. Money comes from unlikely sources. Make moves to advance your position in life.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Remain patient, and lay low. Enjoyment is restricted, but family life remains smooth. It is time to curtail overambitious urges.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You may feel vulnerable defensive and under attack. Consolidate your forces, and return to a self-confident attitude. Share chores with others.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Prospects are bright, and you are uplifted by unlikely contacts. Tension is restored at home. Business is back to normal.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Here is a good day for you. It is time to seek out new opportunities or make changes in your environment.

Avoid wild speculation.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A promise is broken. Don't lend any money unless you know that it will be returned. You discover who your real friends are.

technical know-how. Try a handyman's project with success. Be observant in order to succeed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Difficulties will work themselves out if you don't rock the boat. Lower your

expectations a bit. Take a conservative, realistic approach.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Join the opposition if you cannot beat them. Unexpected expenses have reduced the money supply. In spite of this, you make progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Achievement, happiness and recognition for past efforts are indicated. Young family members can eat in on much-needed rest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You make the right contacts to push a plan through. Avoid neglecting home life when you are so busy.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Feb. 19) Avoid taking on forced socializing.

You may find yourself exhausted or overextended while commitments are concerned. Slow down.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A promise is broken. Don't lend any money unless you know that it will be returned. You discover who your real friends are.

PIERRE CARROLL RIGHTER ASTROLOGICAL FOUNDATION

English F.A. Cup Third Round

Non-league Sutton beat Coventry

LONDON (R) — Minor League Sutton performed one of the great giant-killing acts of English soccer Saturday when they knocked 1987 winners Coventry City out of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup.

Sutton, a semi-professional club based in the suburbs of South London, revelled at their tiny Gander Green Lane home to beat the first division team 2-1 in the biggest shock on a day of success in the third round of the competition.

Goals by Tony Rains and bricklayer Matthew Hanlan secured Sutton's passage to the fourth round for the first time since 1970. Coventry's goal, a 52nd minute equaliser, came from Welsh international midfielder David Phillips.

"It's a fantasy," said Sutton manager Barry Williams. "None said it was possible and it was unreal. But it has happened and will go down as one of the greatest giant-killing results."

Tottenham, beaten by Coventry in the 1987 final, were the other major First Division casualties, losing 1-0 at Second Division

Division Carlisle. Two goals from midfield Steve McMahon and one from England winger John Barnes carried them to a comfortable 3-0 win.

Newcastle and Everton both failed to win tricky ties against Second Division opposition and had to settle for draws.

Newcastle were held 0-0 at home by promotion-chasing Watford. Everton were lucky to escape with a 1-1 draw at West Bromwich Albion, Kevin Sheedy equalising with a controversial 41st minute penalty after Colin Anderson had fired the Second Division leaders into a well-deserved 27th minute lead.

The all-First Division ties ended all-square at Manchester and Derby where Queen's Park Rangers and Southampton, respectively, forced replays.

Manchester United were held to a scoreless draw by the Londoners in a match which saw Rangers' player-manager Trevor Francis and striker Mark Falco go injured in the first half and United and England captain Bryan Robson carried off on a

stretcher in the last minute.

Derby, trailing to a Derek Statham penalty after 49 minutes, survived to fight again thanks to an 87th minute equaliser from midfielder Trevor Hebbard.

In the third all-First Division tie played Saturday, third-placed Millwall beat Luton 3-2 in a match interrupted five minutes from time by a 28-minute delay to repair faulty floodlight.

Millwall took a 2-0 lead with goals from Tony Casciano and Jimmy Carter, but Kingsley Black and a Danny Wilson penalty brought Luton level in the second half.

Teddy Sheringham, with his 12th goal of the season, hit the Millwall winner in the 72nd minute.

Nottingham Forest, whose manager Brian Clough is still seeking his first F.A. Cup title, also hit three goals as they beat Second Division

Ipswich 3-0.

Frank Yallop scored an own goal to put Forest ahead, Tommy Gaynor hit the second and Lee Chapman headed the third.

Manchester United

